Tenancy amendment.

118. Mr. C. J. Mathew.— Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. whether they have drafted the Jenmi-Kudiyan Bill and if so how long will it take for its publication in the Cochin Government Gazette;

2. whether the Government consulted any non-official Members of the Council in the drafting of the Bill and if so whom all and for what purpose; whether they took any written statements from these Members and if so, copies of their statements may be placed on the table?

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—1. Government have not drafted any such bill. A bill to amend the Tenancy Regulation however has been drafted and it is under scrutiny.

2. No non-official Member was consulted in drafting the bill. The Government Advocate communicated the draft to Messrs. C. A. Kunjunni Raja and Thomas Manjuran. No statements were taken.

Rural Dispensary at Trikkur.

119. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they have received petitions from the people of Trikkur and the adjoining places for the opening of a rural dispensary in their village; if so, whether the matter was inquired into by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer and what was the report submitted by him; will a copy of his report be placed on the table;

(b) (i) has the Government received any petition from one Mr. C. Padmanabha Menon, L. M. P., for a job in the Medical Department in 1923; (ii) how many petitions has the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer received from the person till now; has he received a petition dated 11th Medam 1105 and another on 18th Mithunam 1105; (iii) were replies sent to these petitions;

(c) does the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer know that a private dispensary is run by Mr. Padmanabha Menon for the last six years and that he is not in a position to meet the demands of the public?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—(a) Yes; the matter was enquired into by the Chief Medical Officer; copy of his report is appended (*Vide Appendix I*).

(b) (i) Yes.

(ii) It is difficult to ascertain the exact number. The one dated 11th Medam 1105 has been received by the Chief Medical Officer and the other by the Diwan.

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(iii) No.

(c) Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—In reply to the petition it is stated 'This, I believe, should engage the attention of Government in which case the convenience of the inhabitants will be fulfilled in many ways. If there is any delay in opening up these villages and bridging the river that runs through it, I should advocate locating a dispensary there.' I want to know whether there is any idea to bridge the river in the near future?

President.—Was this question ever considered?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes, Sir. I think it is under the consideration of the Government.

President.—Will it materialise in the near future?

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is it likely to materialise in the near future?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—I think so.

President.—The Chief Engineer thinks that there is every likelihood of the thing materialising in the near future.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—When?

President.—No time limit or anything of the kind can be given.

Persecution of Valas of Cheranellur and Kadamakkudi.

120. **Mr. K. Ayyappan.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House.—

whether the Police Inspector of Southern Division has received any complaint from the Valas of Cheranellur and Kadamakkudi alleging that they are being persecuted by some of the Christians of the places;

2. whether the Division Inspector has made any enquiry on the complaint;

3. and whether he has taken any measures for the relief of the complaints?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—1. Yes.

2. Yes.

3. Yes.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Do the Government know that the Valas are actually persecuted?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Yes.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—What is the nature of the persecution?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—A petition was received from the Valas there that the Christians were persecuting them in many ways, and then I asked the D.S.P. to go to the spot, interview the petitioners and set matters right. He went to the spot, looked into the matter, and warned the counter-petitioners.

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